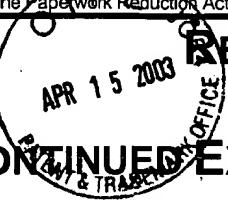


Approved for through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/815,857
Filing Date	April 10, 2003
First Named Inventor	Roger Lacasse
Group Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	Marianne S. Ocampo
Attorney Docket Number	01393-P0047A

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); interim Rule 65 Red. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- II Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Preliminary Amendment

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall be exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4516.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 04/10/2003 CNGUYEN 00000042 09615057
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 375.00 OP
 - iii. Other Any Fee Deficiency
- b. Check in the amount of \$375.00 is enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	Todd M. Oberdick	Registration No (Attorney/Agent)	44,268
Signature	<i>Todd M. Oberdick</i>	Date	April 10, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE; Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: April 10, 2003.

Name (Print / Type)	Linda A. Ferranti
Signature	<i>Linda A. Ferranti</i>

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.